

May 6, 1957

## Dear Dr. Lederberg:

From time to time I think of our correspondence of the past few years. We still feel that it would be most desirable to publish an article about your most interesting and significant work. As you know, however, we have felt that the articles you have sent us were too difficult for the general reader.

We should like to propose a rather unusual alternative. On rare occasions one of us here collaborates with an investigator in the writing of an article. For example, E. P. Rosenbaum of our staff recently wrote a most successful article with Victor Weisskopf of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Esther Weiss of our staff also has written an article in collaboration with Rollin Hotchkiss entitled "Transformed Bacteria." As you may know, Miss Weiss once worked in Hotchkiss' laboratory. I enclose a copy of their article in case you have not seen it.

We should like to ask whether you would consider a similar collaboration with Miss Weiss. The way such a collaboration works is for the investigator to send us whatever technical papers he thinks are relevant. After studying these, Miss Weiss would have a conversation with you, very likely in Madison. Following this, she would write a rough draft of the article, and send it to you. At this point the author usually does some rewriting, and sends the article back to us. Then we do a final editing job, which is of course reviewed by the author. We pay the author our usual fee for an article, which these days is \$400.

Would you let me know at your convenience whether this arrangement is agreeable to you? If it is, Miss Weiss will then get in touch with you directly. Let me say again that we are very keen to publish an account of your work in Scientific American.

Cordially,

DF:ap

Dennis Flanagan Editor

Dr. Joshua Lederberg Department of Genetics University of Wisconsin Madison 6, Wisconsin